



## Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup

Week Ending November 14, 2004

Issued weekly, April-November

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***This report can be found on the Internet at [www.nass.usda.gov/pa](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa)***

**Good Week for Field Work:** Much of Pennsylvania enjoyed beautiful weather last week in spite of scattered showers and cooler temperatures. Five days were suitable for field work. Principal farm activities included feeding livestock, harvesting corn and soybeans, chopping corn stalks, spreading manure, planting wheat, repairing fences, cleaning equipment, and putting implements away for the winter.

### PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending November 14, 2004

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
0	0	66	34

**Crops:** Eighty-seven percent of corn is now harvested with many farmers still very positive about this year's crop. The corn harvest is well ahead of schedule for this time of year. The soybean harvest remains slightly behind historic trends as 68 percent of the crop is now harvested. Eighty-five percent of sorghum has now been harvested. Winter wheat planted and winter wheat emerged stand at 95 percent and 85 percent, respectively. These values are only slightly behind historic trends. The hay cutting season is almost over as 96 percent of the 4<sup>th</sup> cutting of alfalfa is now complete. Only 12 percent of the hay made last week

was rated as either very poor or poor.

**Livestock:** Farmers are rotating animals from field to field throughout the state. Some farmers have taken advantage of the opportunity to have their cows serviced by bulls or AI services before the harsh winter weather sets in.

**U.S. As of November 7, 2004:** Highlights: Temperatures were above normal from the Missouri and Mississippi Valleys to the Atlantic Coast, while below-normal temperatures prevailed across the southern Great Plains, Rocky Mountains, Pacific Northwest, and Southwest. Corn: Harvest advanced to 76 percent complete, 13 percentage points behind last year and the 5-year average. Winter Wheat: Growers had planted 91 percent of their acreage, compared with 95 percent last year and 92 percent for the average. Emergence reached 83 percent complete, the same as last year but 2 points ahead of normal. Soybeans: Harvest was 87 percent complete, 7 points behind last year and the 5-year average. With precipitation limiting fieldwork for a second consecutive week, progress was slow nationwide, averaging 3 points, and was limited to a maximum of 7 points in Ohio. Sorghum: Maturation advanced to 95 percent complete, 2 points ahead of last year but 3 points behind normal.

# Weather Data For Week Ending November 14, 2004

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - November 14, 2004					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
<b>Northwest</b>												
Erie	59	26	42	-4	0.01	1	29.70	1.42	97	2,813	166	4,834
Franklin	63	21	38	-5	0.19	2	41.92	12.26	116	2,629	220	4,652
Meadville	62	21	39	-3	0.06	1	36.83	6.61	104	2,471	267	4,445
Mercer	64	22	38	-4	0.17	1	35.29	7.06	95	2,069	-315	3,988
Springboro	61	20	39	-6	0.01	1	38.46	11.22	118	2,399	-188	4,362
Warren	64	20	37	-5	0.10	2	43.68	13.53	124	2,460	137	4,442
<b>North Central</b>												
Bradford Region	61	15	34	-4	0.02	2	30.25	0.44	108	2,009	354	3,872
Emporium	67	18	37	-4	0.23	3	39.82	10.50	110	2,602	717	4,582
Kane	57	11	29	-10	0.05	2	36.64	6.08	98	1,250	-364	2,919
Laporte	60	19	32	-10	0.40	3	47.81	20.19	119	2,216	-161	4,083
Lock Haven	71	20	38	-5	0.50	2	47.73	20.68	92	2,930	399	4,999
Port Allegany	64	15	34	-5	0.05	1	35.12	6.62	106	2,174	338	4,067
Renovo	70	22	38	-4	0.35	2	38.76	11.71	112	2,840	309	4,894
Ridgway	64	17	35	-5	0.18	1	39.06	9.74	92	2,145	260	4,059
Stevenson Dam	68	21	38	-3	0.07	2	40.78	11.46	102	2,695	810	4,718
Towanda	67	20	37	-5	0.23	3	35.14	12.07	99	2,719	321	4,722
Wellsboro	65	19	34	-6	0.25	3	40.81	17.69	104	2,117	337	4,009
Williamsport	70	23	39	-4	0.10	3	38.05	10.81	111	3,106	314	5,204
<b>Northeast</b>												
Hawley	67	18	36	-6	0.42	2	40.01	13.84	82	2,305	264	4,208
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	65	20	38	-6	0.35	2	33.26	8.01	91	2,839	192	4,876
Susquehanna	64	19	35	-4	0.32	3	40.81	12.53	98	2,759	836	4,754
<b>West Central</b>												
Butler	66	22	39	-4	0.35	2	40.28	12.63	118	2,606	103	4,617
New Castle	67	23	40	-2	0.21	1	41.38	15.89	90	2,923	417	4,967
Slippery Rock	66	22	40	-2	0.26	2	39.94	12.64	113	2,720	478	4,771
<b>Central</b>												
Altoona/Blair	68	23	40	-4	0.51	2	39.16	14.54	109	2,790	125	4,813
DuBois	63	21	38	-4	0.23	2	39.59	11.75	132	2,427	150	4,397
Lewistown	73	25	41	-4	0.61	2	37.30	10.92	88	3,118	189	5,211
Middletown	69	27	44	-3	0.57	2	42.13	15.82	95	3,602	274	5,762
Prince Gallitzi	68	17	38	-4	0.57	2	39.28	7.95	100	2,433	304	4,387
Selinsgrove	69	23	39	-5	0.65	2	40.20	12.72	98	2,992	272	5,052
State College	70	24	39	-4	0.60	2	39.03	14.11	94	2,871	260	4,916
<b>East Central</b>												
Allentown-Bethel	68	21	40	-5	0.89	2	37.40	8.89	85	3,231	194	5,339
Lehighton	62	22	38	-7	0.82	2	42.21	13.67	104	2,820	-106	4,866
Matamoras	66	19	36	-7	0.31	3	35.59	6.76	88	2,503	-110	4,471
Tobyhanna	67	20	37	-2	0.70	2	45.69	14.47	120	2,457	712	4,417
<b>Southwest</b>												
Pittsburgh/Alle	67	27	42	-1	0.50	2	33.90	8.03	105	3,174	483	5,277
Derry	69	22	40	-4	0.63	2	43.05	16.26	107	2,828	294	4,883
Myersdale	66	19	38	-6	0.74	2	35.56	6.29	94	2,266	-232	4,232
Mount Pleasant	69	23	40	-2	0.65	2	41.21	10.62	88	2,773	515	4,801
Pittsburgh Intl	69	26	43	-2	0.40	2	38.07	14.09	102	3,197	378	5,297
Rector	70	22	39	-3	0.67	2	43.61	13.02	122	2,821	563	4,856
Waynesburg	70	24	41	-3	0.63	2	39.31	13.16	101	2,897	300	4,963
<b>South Central</b>												
Biglerville	69	25	41	-6	0.82	2	41.55	16.47	97	3,261	7	5,367
Everett	73	21	40	-4	0.85	2	36.93	12.68	91	2,464	-194	4,457
Hanover	72	23	42	-5	0.81	2	36.99	11.91	84	3,376	122	5,486
Shippensburg	71	25	42	-5	0.82	2	43.95	19.51	93	3,426	184	5,535
South Mountain	65	24	39	-5	0.71	2	38.76	14.14	79	2,706	53	4,696
York	71	21	42	-5	0.73	2	30.83	4.29	76	3,376	123	5,501
<b>Southeast</b>												
Green Lane	69	24	40	-5	1.09	2	42.46	14.79	89	3,585	693	5,734
Hamburg	69	23	40	-3	0.88	2	39.73	7.59	99	3,247	640	5,352
Hopewell	69	24	41	-7	1.07	2	41.66	12.79	112	3,305	-139	5,427
Lancaster	69	24	42	-3	0.68	2	36.81	9.01	96	3,392	327	5,533
Neshaminy Falls	71	24	42	-4	1.40	1	40.15	8.59	80	3,578	555	5,732
New Holland	71	25	41	-5	0.97	2	38.79	10.99	97	3,369	304	5,489
Philadelphia	69	28	44	-4	1.47	1	36.54	9.86	82	3,977	404	6,166
Philadelphia NE	70	26	44	-5	1.35	1	39.40	12.72	85	3,828	255	6,007
Reading	69	23	42	-4	0.74	2	39.20	9.63	91	3,428	428	5,562
Valley Forge Na	71	25	41	-7	1.20	2	42.33	13.46	78	3,404	-40	5,513
Willow Grove	68	27	42	-3	1.23	3	32.41	0.85	91	3,538	515	5,691

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.

Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.

Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.

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# Internet Reporters' Comments, By County:

***Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.***

**CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little (FSA)** - The majority of work this past week has been harvesting corn and getting equipment ready for winter storage.

**CAMBRIA COUNTY, Earl J. Long** - The corn harvest is winding down, and yields are good. Wheat is progressing nicely.

**COLUMBIA COUNTY, Dan McCarty** - Lots of soybeans harvested during the week. Reports of poor standability in the corn. Rain over the weekend stopped harvesting until next week.

**CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS)** - Good week for getting crops harvested. Other farm activities were cleaning equipment and putting implements away for the winter. Pastures look over-grazed and most farmers are supplementing forages.

**FOREST COUNTY, Thomas Tanner (FSA)** - Corn, soybean, and hay harvesting has had ideal weather for late fall. Corn yields are being reported anywhere from 40 bushels to 180 bushels per acre. The county average appears to be in the neighborhood of 105 bushels. Many farmers are cleaning out liquid manure by incorporating manure in ground. Most farmers are putting equipment away for winter storage and getting ready for winter.

**FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr (FSA)** - Having had several hard freezes, the growing season has come to an end for this year. Corn is mostly harvested except for that which will be harvested as ear corn. Soybean harvest has resumed this week. Yields are still above normal. It was a good week for catching up on fence repair and other chores in preparation for winter.

**LANCASTER COUNTY, Axel Linde** - Another week with one heavy rainfall (about 1.5"). Soybeans are harvested but too dry with lots of shattering. Heifers are still enjoying fresh grass (Italian ryegrass planted after corn silage.) Now is the time to plan for next year. Will it be more grass or soybeans and corn?

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Andrew Frankenfield (EXT)** - Corn and soybean harvesting continues to progress fairly well. Another inch of rainfall Friday halted field activities for the week's end. Corn storage is a problem with a fair amount of corn still standing. The forecast of a dry week will give the ground an opportunity to dry out some. Wheat planted in late October has emerged well.

**PERRY COUNTY, Jeremiah J. Trout** - Harvest is behind schedule this year due to late planting and wet harvest weather. We also experienced our first widespread severe frost over the past week.

**SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer** - The early part of the week was excellent for harvesting corn and soybeans with crop production being well above average. There appears to be a slight amount of white mold in some of the soybean fields. The common chickweed is getting a very good start in a few of the alfalfa fields that may require some attention. On Friday many areas had nearly one inch of rainfall. The growing season has come to an end with the low temperature on Sunday being in the upper teens and lower twenties. The main activities for the week were harvesting corn and soybeans, chopping corn stalks, spreading manure and enjoying the bountiful harvest.

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr (FSA)** - Another good harvest week until the rain arrived on Friday. Storage space is getting real tight now that most growers have moved their contracted grain and are wanting to store the balance while waiting on some price improvement. Many producers are describing this year's crops as the best corn and soybeans ever.

**YORK COUNTY, Wayne Kurtz** - Harvest continues as weather permits with yields remaining above average. Harvest efforts have shifted to soybeans. Double cropped soybean after wheat yields are excellent as well, ranging from 25 to 50 bushels per acre.

**PA Crop Progress for Week Ending November 14, 2004**

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	90	69	80
Corn, harvested	87	74	79
Wheat, planted	95	94	97
Wheat, emerged	85	82	86
Soybeans, harvested	68	64	75
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	96	91	94

**PA Crop Condition for Week Ending November 14, 2004**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Wheat	0	5	9	65	21
Quality of hay made	2	10	54	26	8

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